

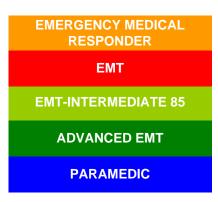
# EMS System for Metropolitan Oklahoma City and Tulsa 2017 Medical Control Board Treatment Protocols



**EMS SECTION** 

Approved 11/9/16, Effective 2/1/17, replaces all prior versions

# 3G – PULSE OXIMETRY ADULT & PEDIATRIC



### Indications:

- 1. Medical General Assessment/General Supportive Care
- 2. Trauma General Assessment/Trauma & Hypovolemic Shock Supportive Care
- 3. Acute Dyspnea (Uncertain Etiology, Asthma, COPD, CHF, ALTE).
- 4. Cardiovascular Disorders (Chest Pain, Acute Coronary Syndrome, Dysrhythmias).
- 5. Neurologic Disorders/Altered Mental Status (Stroke, Seizure, Syncope).
- 6. Toxicologic/Poisonings (Altered Mental Status, Dyspnea)
- 7. Trauma (Head, Face, Neck, Chest Injuries)

### Contraindications: None

### Technique:

- A. Power on the pulse oximeter (may be included with monitor/defibrillator).
- B. Select an appropriate site for measurement.
  - 1. Best skin color on hand (or foot/ear if pediatric).
    - 2. Not distal to acute suspected orthopedic injuries.
- C. Place the infrared sensor on the patient.
- D. Read the pulse rate and oximetry reading (SpO<sub>2</sub>).

### Precautions:

- A. Pulse oximetry values may be inaccurate in hemodynamically compromised patients (shock), patients with peripheral vascular constriction, carbon monoxide poisonings/smoke inhalations, and any conditions that may cause methemoglobinemia or sulfhemoglobinemia. Always correlate the patient's clinical condition with SpO<sub>2</sub> readings.
- B. Trends prove more informative than a single measurement. At least two measurements should be performed and documented when using pulse oximetry. In the setting of artificial airway placement, pulse oximetry should be utilized continuously.